

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electric discharge machining electrode adapted to improve the quality of a finished surface of an article by increasing a machining speed by improving the electric discharge generation rate η even in a fine machining process; and by rendering it possible to maintain constant the electric discharge generation rate η even when a time width and a voltage of the electric discharge pulses are reduced. In an electrode used in the electric discharge machining process carried out by generating electric discharge pulses between the electrode and an article, a radioactive metal is contained in the portion of the electrode in which the electric discharge pulses occur, or in the portion thereof which is in the vicinity of the portion in which the electric discharge pulses occur. The radiant rays emitted by the radioactive metal exert influence on the substances present between the article and the electrode, or processing liquids, which are usually water or oil, and works so as to promote the electrolytic dissociation of the substances. Therefore, the electric discharge generation rate η is improved.